

Serial No.: 10/051,662

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REMARKS

Applicants have withdrawn the claims that do not read on the elected compounds. The withdrawn claims are claims 77, 85, 86, 88, 91-111, 126, 140-141, 146 and 148, including independent claim 91.

Applicants are currently amending six claims, including independent claim 112. Independent claim 112 recites a progestin dosage of less than or equal to an equivalent of 2.5 mg of norethindrone. Support for the limitation of 2.5 mg or less of norethindrone equivalent is found in Table 1. Need uses 5 mg of norethindrone, or northisterone. Consequently, the present amendment to claim 112 distinguishes over Need for 102 purposes, and also avoids any 103 rejection because one skilled in the art would not be motivated to combine progestin with Vitamin D for the purposes of Need, and certainly not at an even lower dosage of progestin (given Need's results). Indeed, Need's results would discourage further use of the combination. In contrast, applicants discovered an unanticipated benefit of combining progestin and Vitamin D compounds, namely prevention of ovarian cancer.

Applicants respectfully seek allowance of the pending claims.

Respectfully submitted,



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